

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 45 ppm comprising steps of:

~~a-a)~~ providing a first layer comprising staple length synthetic polymeric fibers, wherein said polymeric fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyesters, polyolefins, and combinations thereof;

~~b-b)~~ providing a second layer comprising natural cellulosic fibers, wherein said natural cellulosic fibers are selected from the group consisting of wood pulp, cotton, rayon, and combinations thereof;

~~c-c)~~ juxtaposing the second layer upon the first layer; and

~~d-d)~~ applying a hydraulic energy to said juxtaposed layers through a plurality of hydraulic manifolds to form a hydroentangled nonwoven fabric;

~~e-e)~~ acid washing comprising applying an acid wash to said hydroentangled nonwoven fabric, wherein said acid wash comprises acetic acid and de-ionized water, including pulling said acid wash through said nonwoven fabric by vacuum, providing an acid-washed nonwoven fabric;

~~f-f)~~ rinsing said acid-washed nonwoven fabric, providing a rinsed nonwoven fabric;  
and

~~g-g)~~ drying said rinsed nonwoven fabric,  
wherein said acid washing, rinsing, and drying steps are performed sequentially without intervening steps, providing a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count of less than 45 ppm and which exhibits drape and conforms to any cleanable surface.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count of less than 25 ppm comprising steps of:

~~a-a)~~ providing a first layer comprising staple length synthetic polymeric fibers,  
wherein said polymeric fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyesters, polyolefins, and combinations thereof;

~~b-b)~~ providing a second layer comprising natural cellulosic fibers;

~~c-c)~~ juxtaposing the second layer upon the first layer; and

~~d-d)~~ applying a hydraulic energy to said juxtaposed layers through a plurality of hydraulic manifolds to form a hydroentangled nonwoven fabric;

~~e-e)~~ acid washing comprising applying an acid wash to said hydroentangled nonwoven fabric, wherein said acid wash comprises acetic acid and de-ionized water, including pulling said acid wash through said nonwoven fabric by vacuum, providing an acid-washed nonwoven fabric;

~~f-f)~~ rinsing said acid-washed nonwoven fabric, providing a rinsed nonwoven fabric;  
and

~~g-g)~~ drying said rinsed nonwoven fabric,  
wherein said acid washing, rinsing, and drying steps are performed sequentially without intervening steps, providing a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count of less than 25 ppm which exhibits drape and conforms to any cleanable surface and which is free of binder that leaves behind undesirable residue on a surface upon wiping.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 25 ppm as in claim 7, wherein said natural cellulosic fibers are selected from the group consisting of wood pulp, cotton, rayon, and combinations thereof.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 45 ppm as in claim 1, wherein said step of applying an acid wash is a single acid wash step and said rinsing step is a single rinse step.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 45 ppm as in claim 1, said method consisting of steps ~~a)~~ b), c), d), e), f) between steps a) and g).

15. (previously presented): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 45 ppm as in claim 1, wherein said drying step includes an initial dewatering of the rinsed nonwoven fabric comprising passing the rinsed nonwoven fabric over a dewatering slot.

16. (currently amended): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 25 ppm as in claim 7, said method consisting of steps ~~a)~~ b), c), d), e), f) between steps a) and g).

17. (previously presented): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 45 ppm as in claim 7, wherein said drying step includes an initial dewatering of the rinsed nonwoven fabric comprising passing the rinsed nonwoven fabric over a dewatering slot.

18. (new): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 45 ppm as in claim 1, said nonwoven fabric is free of surfactants having a negative impact on the sodium ion count.

19. (new): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 25 ppm as in claim 7, said nonwoven fabric is free of surfactants having a negative impact on the sodium ion count.

20. (new): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count of less than 25 ppm comprising steps of:

- a) providing a first layer comprising staple length synthetic polymeric fibers, wherein said synthetic polymeric fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyesters, polyolefins, and combinations thereof;
  - b) providing a second layer comprising a wet-laid web comprising natural cellulosic fibers;
  - c) juxtaposing the second layer upon the first layer; and
  - d) applying a hydraulic energy to said juxtaposed layers through a plurality of hydraulic manifolds to form a hydroentangled nonwoven fabric;
  - e) acid washing comprising applying an acid wash to said hydroentangled nonwoven fabric, wherein said acid wash comprises acetic acid and de-ionized water, including pulling said acid wash through said nonwoven fabric by vacuum, providing an acid-washed nonwoven fabric;
  - f) rinsing said acid-washed nonwoven fabric, providing a rinsed nonwoven fabric;
- and
- g) drying said rinsed nonwoven fabric;

wherein said method consisting of steps e) and f) between steps d) and g), providing a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count of less than 25 ppm which exhibits drape and conforms to any cleanable surface and which is free of binder that leaves behind undesirable residue on a surface upon wiping.

21. (new): A method of making a nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 25 ppm as in claim 20, further comprising:

- h) winding the nonwoven fabric having a sodium ion count less than 25 ppm for storage and shipment.